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Date: 3/23/2011

GAIN Report Number: FR9062

France

Post: Paris

USDA Intervention Saves \$100,000 Citrus Shipment

Report Categories:

Export Accomplishments - Other

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Report Highlights:

Three containers of U.S. citrus fruit were detained due to the suspected presence of citrus canker in the Florida grove of origin. According to EU import requirements; this made the fruit ineligible for entry into the EU. FAS Paris and APHIS joined forces with the exporter to secure the release of the unaffected fruit.

General Information:

French authorities detained a three container consignment of Florida citrus fruit at the port of LeHavre earlier this year due to the suspected presence of citrus canker. According to EU import requirements, which state that the fruit must originate in a grove “block” free of citrus canker, the fruit was ineligible for entry.

When FAS Paris discovered that only one out of the three containers included fruit from a grove suspected of actually harboring the disease, they presented the evidence to the French Ministry of Agriculture. They then worked closely with APHIS to ensure that new export certificates were issued which clearly identified the healthy and eligible fruit. These certificates contained an additional declaration needed for the European Union, which stated that the fruit came from groves free of citrus canker. With this new and proper documentation the French authorities released 90 percent of the citrus from this shipment as eligible for import, with a value of \$100,000.